

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 TRSE-00 SAI-01 IO-14

OIC-04 AEC-11 OMB-01 ACDA-19 USIE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

DRC-01 SAM-01 DODE-00 H-03 NSC-07 SS-20 MC-02 /139 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5441

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3942

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T USNATO 2357

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/82

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: APRIL 30 SPC DISCUSSION ON NON-INCREASE OF FORCES
COMMITMENT

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

REF: A. USNATO 2309; B. USNATO 2268;

SUMMARY: SPC ON APRIL 30 MADE FURTHER PROGRESS TOWARD AGREEMENT
ON GUIDANCE FOR AHG RE NON-INCREASE OF FORCES COMMITMENT. BASIS OF
DISCUSSION WAS REVISED VERSION OF INTERNATIONAL STAFF DRAFT GUIDANCE
WHICH FOLLOWS SEPTTEL. PRINCIPAL ISSUE WAS INCLUSION OF EQUIPMENT.
ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE ON TEXT OF NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT FOR
SPC MEETING ON MONDAY, MAY 6. END SUMMARY.

1. US REP REMINDED SPC THAT LAST WEEK HE HAD RECOMMENDED DROPPING
SEVERAL BRACKETS IN PARA A OF IS DRAFT GUIDANCE, SO THAT TEXT WOULD
STATE THAT NO EQUIPMENT WOULD BE
INCLUDED IN NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT. HE ALSO POINTED OUT
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INCLUSION OF EQUIPMENT WOULD REPRESENT MAJOR CONCESSION TO
SOVIETS AND WOULD GREATLY COMPLICATE NEGOTIATIONS ON NON-INCREASE.

2. UK REP SAID UK ONLY SEEKING TO PREVENT SOVIET TANKS (IF INCLUDED

IN PHASE I) FROM BEING TRANSFERRED TO OTHER WP COUNTRIES, AND SAID UK COULD MAKE SENTENCE IN THIRD BRACKETS MORE SPECIFIC IN THIS REGARD. UK GAINED SUPPORT ON ITS CONCERN, AS CANADA SAID IT ACCEPTED UK VIEW. GERMANY AGREED WITH US AND THOUGHT THE PROBLEM OF TRANSFER OF EQUIPMENT COULD BE RESOLVED THROUGH A NON-CIRCUMVENTION CLAUSE.

3. GERMANY, CONTINUING TO INSIST ON EASTERN AGREEMENT ON THE COMMON CEILING AS PRICE FOR NON-INCREASE AGREEMENT, AGREED TO DROP FIRST BRACKETS IN PARA B. SPC WILL AGAIN CONSIDER NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON MAY 6.

4. COMMENT: MAJOR ISSUE IN PAPER IS EQUIPMENT QUESTION. OTHER ALLIES SHARE UK CONCERN OVER TRANSFER OF REDUCED SOVIETS TANKS TO OTHER WP STATES. UNLESS WASHINGTON OBJECTS, MISSION PLANS TO TAKE FOLLOWING LINE ON THIS ISSUE AT MAY 6 SPC MEETING: (1) SUPPORT GERMAN VIEW THAT A NON-CIRCUMVENTION CLAUSE WOULD COVER THE PROBLEM; (2) ADD THAT ALLIES IN THE COURSE OF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS COULD MAKE CLEAR THEIR VIEW THAT SOVIET TRANSFER OF TANKS TO OTHER WP COUNTRIES WOULD BE CONTRARY TO NON-CIRCUMVENTION CLAUSE.

5. WASHINGTON MIGHT ALSO CONSIDER A NON-TRANSFER PROVISION IN AN MBFR AGREEMENT TO COVER PROBLEM MORE SPECIFICALLY. MISSION IS CONCERNED, HOWEVER, THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EAST ON NON-TRANSFER COULD BECOME EXTREMELY COMPLEX AND LEAD TO ESTABLISHING INTRICATE GROUND-RULES ON EQUIPMENT TRANSFER AND CATEGORIZATION.

6. RE PARA B. MISSION BELIEVES US SHOULD ACCEPT REFERENCE TO COMMON CEILING, WHICH DOES NOT GO BEYOND C-M(73)83. IT IS PROBABLY WEAKEST LINK BETWEEN NON-INCREASE AND COMMON CEILING WHICH FRG WILL ACCEPT. END COMMENT.
MCAULIFFE

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